

**CLAIMS**

1 1. In a data processing system having a user terminal operated by a user which  
2 builds a component for accessing a data base management system responsively  
3 coupled to said user terminal via a publically accessible digital data  
4 communication network , the improvement comprising:

5 a. a data wizard which permits said user to specify said component as an  
6 ordered sequence of discreet and independent steps and which presents a  
7 plurality of valid steps as choices for addition at each position in said  
8 plurality of discreet and independent steps; and

9 b. a plurality of state reports wherein one of each report in the plurality of  
10 state reports corresponds to one step in said plurality of said ordered  
11 sequence of discreet and independent steps, wherein each of said plurality of  
12 state reports conveys state information from a given one of said ordered  
13 sequence of discreet and independent steps to a subsequent one of said  
14 ordered sequence of discreet and independent steps.

1 2. The improvement according to claim 1 wherein said publically accessible digital  
2 data communication network further comprises the Internet.

1 3. The improvement according to claim 2 wherein said user terminal further  
2 comprises an industry compatible personal computer having a commercially  
3 available browser.

1 4. The improvement according to claim 3 wherein each of said plurality of state  
2 reports further comprises a development environment state that defines the build  
3 information for a subsequent step in said plurality of steps.

1 5. The improvement according to claim 4 wherein said data base management  
2 system is Classic MAPPER.

1 6. An apparatus comprising:

- 2 a. a user terminal;
- 3 b. a data base management system responsively coupled to said user  
4 terminal via a publically accessible digital data communication network;  
5 and
- 6 c. a data wizard responsively coupled to said user terminal and said data  
7 base management system which permits a service to be defined from said  
8 user terminal in accordance with an ordered sequence of discreet and  
9 independent steps and which provides a state report to each one of said  
10 ordered sequence of discreet and independent steps which corresponds to

the previous one of said ordered sequence of discreet and independent steps.

7. The apparatus of claim 6 wherein said publically accessible digital data communication network further comprises the Internet.

8. The apparatus of claim 7 wherein each of said state reports further comprises a state update code.

9. The apparatus of claim 8 wherein said user terminal further comprises an industry compatible personal computer containing a web browser.

10. The apparatus of claim 9 wherein said data base management system further comprises the MAPPER data base management system.

11. A method of dynamically building a component from a user terminal coupled via a publically accessible digital data network to a remote data base management system having a component building process comprising:

- a. presenting a first plurality of potential steps which are valid for a first position in an ordered sequence of steps which define said component.

- b. inserting a chosen one of said first plurality of potential steps into said ordered sequence of steps;
- c. associating a first state report with said chosen one of said first plurality of potential steps;
- d. presenting a second plurality of potential steps which are valid for a next position in said ordered sequence of steps;
- e. inserting a chosen one of said second plurality of potential steps into said ordered sequence of steps;
- f. associating a second state report with said chosen one of said second plurality of potential steps and
- g. repeating steps c, d, e, and f until said component is completed.

12. A method according to claim 11 further wherein each of said state reports further comprises a state update code.

13. A method according to claim 12 wherein said publically accessible digital data communication network further comprises the world wide web.

14. A method according to claim 13 wherein said user terminal further comprises an industry compatible personal computer.

1 15. A method according to claim 14 wherein said remote data base management  
2 system further comprises MAPPER data base management system.

1 16. An apparatus comprising:

2 a. means for permitting a user to access a publically accessible digital data  
3 communication network;

4 b. means responsively coupled to said permitting means via said publically  
5 accessible digital data communication network for providing data base  
6 management services;

7 c. means responsively coupled to said permitting means and said responding  
8 means for designing a component through specification of an ordered plurality  
9 of discreet and independent steps; and

10 d. means responsively coupled to said designing means for associating a state  
11 report with each of said ordered plurality of discreet and independent steps.

1 17. An apparatus according to claim 16 wherein said state report further  
2 comprises a state development environment.

1 18. An apparatus according to claim 17 wherein said publically accessible digital  
2 data communication network further comprises the Internet.

1 20. An apparatus according to claim 19 wherein said permitting means further  
2 comprises an industry standard personal computer.

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